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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND
TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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APR 04 2003

Technology Center 2600

In the application of : Russell, John Paul
Serial No. : 09/166,814
Filed : October 06, 1998
For : Concatenation of Containers in Synchronous Digital
Hierarchy Network
Examiner : Tran, Phuc H
Art Unit : 2666

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service
as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Director of Patents and Trademarks,
Washington, D.C. 20231," on March 31, 2003.
Name of person signing Jennifer J. Ramirez
Signature [Signature]

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED JANUARY 29, 2003

Honorable Director of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir,

In response to the Office Action mailed January 29, 2003 applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration of the above identified patent application in view of the following amendments/remarks which are believed to place the above identified patent application in condition for allowance, or in better form for consideration on appeal.